



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

DIRK KEMPTHORNE – Governor
KARL B. KURTZ – Director

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
450 West State Street, 10th Floor
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0036
PHONE 208-334-5625
FAX 208-334-5926

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2004

Ross Mason
(208) 334-0693

BILL WALKER NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Bill Walker, a nine-year veteran of the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare has been named Deputy Director of the agency.

“This was really a very easy decision,” says the Department Director Karl Kurtz. “Bill has been working closely with me since I came to the agency in 1999. He has shown a remarkable grasp of the Department’s most complex programs. His knowledge of the annual budget has been a real asset during the legislative sessions.”

Walker’s responsibilities as deputy director will include oversight of legislative relations, the rules writing unit, regional directors, and the Department’s communications unit.

“This is going to be a lot of fun and very challenging at the same time,” says Walker. “I’ve enjoyed working with the legislature and look forward to the next session. I’m excited to be working with the regional directors. They’ve had a very positive impact on the communities they serve.”

Walker joined the Department in 1995 after two years as city editor at the Idaho Statesman newspaper. Prior to his move to Idaho, he had been an editor and writer for newspapers in southern California for 15-years. He begins his new duties immediately.

(Editors: For additional information contact Ross Mason in Boise at 334-0693)